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Four golfers had breakfast at the Belleaire at 7 o'clock one Sunday morning in November. They ate 4 Baked Apples, 4 Pieces of Salt Mackerel, 4 portions of Potatoes hashed in cream, 4 portions of fresh American Bread and Butter, and they drank 4 Pots of Coffee.

The men in the party were: Gil T. Hodges, long associated with the Frank A. Munsey publications; Morris B. Aleshire, associated with Calkins & Holden; Harry D. Wood, connected with the wholesale house of Marshall Field & Company, New York, and William C. Freeman, associated with E. T. Howard Co., Inc. They said they never ate a better breakfast—that it took them back to their youth when the regular Sunday morning breakfast consisted of salt mackerel, potatoes, fresh baked bread and coffee.

Do you wonder that these four men, after such a breakfast, motored happily and swiftly to the Sleepy Hollow golf course and played 36 holes without getting tired?

You may have such a breakfast any morning at the Belleaire. Come and try it. All say it is great and that they like it.

Walter Fitzgerald

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## SCHOOLBOOK WAR WAXES FURIOUS

Report on Alleged Anti-English Propaganda Is Awaited From Teachers.

## SEE PRO-BRITISH TEXT

Four Histories by American Authors Meet Condemnation of Critics.

## PASSAGES EXAGGERATED

Considered Peculiar That Only Matters Concerning England Are Questioned.

Within the next few days a subcommittee of twenty-one school teachers and principals will submit to the Board of Superintendents of the Department of Education a report of their findings in one of the most curious controversies that ever has arisen over the public education of children in this city.

The question to be decided by the committee is nothing more or less than whether history as it is being taught in the schools to-day is a deliberately inaccurate picture of the past of America, manufactured for the purpose of placing England upon a pedestal and undermining the patriotism of youthful pupils.

The charges that some of the text books being used in the schools were wilfully "pro-British" and "poisonous to the mind of the coming generation" first appeared last summer, and since then have been kept alive by a small but active group of persons whose only common bond, apparently, has been to force the school authorities to place a ban on the alleged offensive publications.

## Anti-British Charges.

One of the principal agitators was Charles Grant Miller of 100 St. Marks place, Staten Island, who wrote a series of articles in one of the recognized anti-British newspapers last summer, and who has appeared several times at the various hearings held by the subcommittee. Several of these protests have been gathered together in pamphlet form and printed under the title "Treason to American Tradition," and distributed to the Board of Superintendents and practically all of the public school principals in the five boroughs.

While many of the charges were regarded as exaggerated and unfounded, sufficient importance was attached to Mr. Miller's views and those who supported him to cause a subcommittee to be appointed by Superintendent William Ettinger to give careful study to the text books in question and hear personally all complaints.

One of the principals of a public school in Brooklyn followed Mr. Miller's charges by a stormy protest against so-called "anti-American" sentiments expressed in some of the principal text books used in the public schools. By degrees other societies and organizations became interested in the question and there have been quite sizable representations of complainants at the few times the committee met to consider the complaints in open session. The Rev. P. J. Corran of Fordham Uni-

versity went so far as to declare at one hearing that there was a systematic effort being made to "de-Americanize America" and hand it over ultimately to the British Empire.

The four text books that are accused of spreading anti-American propaganda are Barnes's American History for Grammar Grades, by Everett Barnes, a public school principal of Brooklyn; Hart's History of the United States, by Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart, head of the history department of Harvard University and a well known author and publisher; "Our United States," by Prof. William B. Guiteau, Superintendent of Schools, Toledo; "A History of the United States for Schools," by Andrew C. McLaughlin, head of the department of history at the University of Chicago, and Claude H. Van Tyne, head of the department of history at the University of Michigan.

The Hart history has been regarded as a standard in the public schools for many years, while the other publications are of more recent date and have only lately been accepted on the school lists. The Barnes history and the Van Tyne history have been the objects of the most bitter criticism, the other two books only to a lesser degree.

Included in the list of books which the critics would like to have banned or at least partly deleted is a small publication containing Burke's Speech on Conciliation With America, and a preface by Prof. C. H. Ward of the Taft School at Waterbury, Conn. In preparing the student for a study of the speech Prof. Ward dismisses the idea that the American people in 1775 quarreled with the British nation, but points out that the principal difficulty arose over the attitude of George III, who was regarded as a tyrant.

## Think Controversy Serious.

The subcommittee of twenty-one regards the controversy as serious and far reaching in its effects, not only upon the educational system in this city but the possibility that the anti-British propaganda might be spread to other cities and ultimately be responsible for depriving students of some of the very best text books available. Should the committee's report decide in favor of the critics, it is regarded as a foregone conclusion that the controversy will be taken to other States, while a final decision here by a body of competent teachers and students of history would go far, it is said, to quieting any further activities of a similar nature in other cities.

The following is the passage from Ward's preface most frequently complained of by the critics in that it is alleged to absolve the British people from responsibility for the Revolution and to promote an unwarranted bias toward Great Britain in the minds of high school pupils.

"As long as there lurks in the back of American consciousness," says Prof. Ward, "a suspicion of tyranny in 1775 so long will misunderstanding prevent the English speaking nations from working in accord to develop Anglo-American friendship. If every high school student knew that the Governmental oppression that caused the American Revolution was 'made in Germany' our democracy would be more secure. Not until the younger generation has learned to distinguish between the English freedom of 1775 and the slavery that they may have from Prussia, will America return to that unsuspecting confidence in the mother country which is vital to the future progress of democracy throughout the world."

The American Revolution was not an attempt of England to tyrannize over the colonies, but was a quarrel fomented by a German King as part of his programme of despotic ambition." A teacher of history in one of the schools in Brooklyn was asked by THE NEW YORK HERALD yesterday to express his opinion of this offending passage, and he stated in reply that he believed it to be an accurate presentation of the situation in the colonies at that time. He emphasized his view, moreover, by pointing out that in the Declaration of Independence George III is mentioned by name as the offending party rather than the British people as a nation.

## Five Chief Accusations.

The more specific charges, beyond the general accusation of pro-British feeling actuating the authors throughout the books, are as follows:

1. The elimination of the account of the heroic death of Nathan Hale.
2. The description of John Hancock as a "smuggler."
3. The praise bestowed upon the

British soldiers who charged the earthworks at Bunker Hill.

4. The description in the Barnes History of the naval battle between the Bonhomme Richard and the British ship "Serapis" in which it is stated: "An accidental explosion of powder on board the Serapis killed many of her men and her captain surrendered," thus it is claimed taking away from the prestige and glory allotted in history to John Paul Jones.

5. Calling Henry Clay and John Calhoun by the nickname of "War-Hawks."

A defense of each one of these statements was made yesterday by a history teacher who received one of the Miller pamphlets which are characterized as "petty and pitifully false." Taking each in turn, THE NEW YORK HERALD informant said:

"It is true that in many of the text books the account of Nathan Hale's death is left out. This is because the event is considered episodic, and there is a tendency to condense as much as possible within the short space demanded in a concise schoolroom history. The advent of the world war caused a great many of the books to be rewritten, and much material had to be restricted or eliminated entirely."

"Regarding the allusion to John Hancock, I consider this to be an offense against good taste, but the fact remains that a great many of the merchants in Boston and New York at that time were recipients of smuggled goods. The laws were so strict that if they hadn't been they wouldn't have obtained any merchandise."

"The British soldiers undoubtedly showed great courage at Bunker Hill."

"The offending passage in the naval battle episode is unfair to the general description of the event, and is lifted bodily from the book without including other paragraphs that present the facts as we know them."

"War Hawks was a term created by pamphleteers, and should not be taken seriously. It is claimed by those who defend the present histories that in a great many other places there are remarks derogatory to American institutions or statesmen, but that the critics have concerned themselves solely with those that relate to England, and the period in which America was at war with that country."

It is for this reason that some of the members of the school body regard the entire agitation as part of the anti-British campaign being waged by the radical element of the Sinn Fein, and not a sincere effort to reform the educational system in the schools, in so far as it relates to the teaching of American history."

The subcommittee of twenty-one is to have two meetings this week, one part of the committee considering its report on the books used in the elementary schools, and the remainder preparing an opinion on the high school books.

## NEW JURY; NO CRIMES.

Putnam County Body Organizes and Goes Home.

Members of the Putnam County Grand Jury organized yesterday before County Judge J. Bennett Southard and then went home because there was no crime to investigate.

Frank O'Brien of Brewster was appointed by Judge Southard as foreman. The judge told them the county deserves praise for being such a model of law and order, thanked them for appearing and told them they were excused. Rhineland Waldo, who has a large estate in Putnam Valley, was drawn to serve, but did not appear.

## SINGS TO STAGE JOB FROM CELL IN JAIL

Monologue Cheers Prisoners and Brings Vaudeville Contract.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. POUGHKEEPSIE, Dec. 13.—Julius B. Johnston, a convict from Clinton prison, arraigned here to-day to be sentenced for breaking out of the prison farm at Wingdale two years ago, is not going to suffer for his act. He is going down to New York city in nine days, having practically sung himself to freedom. In New York he will begin to fulfill a contract in a vaudeville theatre.

How Johnston broke out of Wingdale is an old story. He used to be a burglar and up to the time of his arrest two and a half years ago he never knew his voice was worth anything to him. Six months after he was sentenced to serve two and a half years word was brought to him that his wife and child were ill and that his wife might die. Johnston jimmied

his way out of his cell and went to his home. He was rearrested and sent back to prison.

Clinton Prison was selected for him because it is a stronghold. He was safe there. He gave up all ideas of escaping and for amusement began to sing, at first to himself but later to all the prisoners. In the last year, prison authorities believe, Johnston's songs have brought more cheer to the prisoners than anything else that has been done for them.

Recently Johnston fixed up a "sing-song" monologue for himself. He found it convulsed the prisoners. One day when he was at his best he did his act for William Quade, manager of Proctor's Fifth Avenue Theatre, but he didn't know who Quade was until later.

William A. McCabe, confidential secretary for the State Superintendent of Prisons, appeared before Judge Arnold here to-day when Johnston was arraigned for sentencing. McCabe explained that the prisoner had a fine future waiting for him, and to prove it related how the theatrical manager has agreed to start the man at \$50 a week. Then he asked permission for Johnston to do his act. It was given, and for the next half hour Judge Arnold, court attendants, the members of the town board of supervisors and all within hearing were in an uproar.

Two other prisoners whose voices aren't quite so good were sent back to Clinton for an extra year each.

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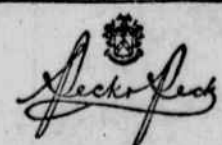
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